

DEC 17 2008

Application Serial No: 10/815,151
Responsive to the Office Action mailed on: November 13, 2008

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 13, 2008. Claims 1, 3-5 and 30 are pending.

§102 Rejections:

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected as being anticipated by Hobson (US Patent No. 5,445,906). This rejection is traversed.

Claim 1 is directed to an energy device comprising a winding body in which a band-shaped laminate having a flexible elongated substrate made of an insulating material, a negative collector, a solid electrolyte, a positive active material, and a positive collector in this order is wound in a plate shape with the flexible elongated substrate placed inside. Claim 1 also requires that a cross-sectional shape of the winding body perpendicular to a winding axis includes portions at opposing ends of the cross-sectional shape with small radiuses of curvature and portions between the opposing ends of the cross-sectional shape with large radiuses of curvature.

Hobson does not disclose or suggest these features. Hobson is directed to a rechargeable battery that includes a web 22 that is wound into a cylindrical spiral configuration (see column 3, lines 51-56 and Figure 5 of Hobson). Nowhere does Hobson disclose or suggest that a cross-sectional shape of the web 22 perpendicular to a winding axis includes portions at opposing ends of the cross-sectional shape with small radiuses of curvature and portions between the opposing ends of the cross-sectional shape with large radiuses of curvature, as required by the winding body of claim 1. Moreover, nowhere does Hobson contemplate modifying its battery to wind the web 22 into any other shape other than a cylindrical spiral configuration. In contrast, Hobson only teaches that the web 22 is wound into a desired cylindrical spiral configuration (see the Abstract; column 1, line 64-column 2, line 5; column 3, lines 51-56; column 5, lines 20-23 and lines 43-46; column 5, line 65-column 6, line 3; column 6, lines 14-16; and column 6, lines 38-42 of Hobson). For at least these reasons claim 1 is not disclosed by Hobson and should be allowed. Claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons.

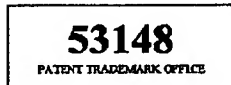
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§103 Rejections:

Claims 5 and 30 are rejected as being unpatentable over Hobson. This rejection is traversed. Claims 5 and 30 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons discussed above. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection.

Conclusion:

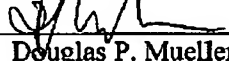
Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1, 3-5 and 30 are in condition for allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 455-3804.



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Respectfully submitted,

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